

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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71

ACTION EB-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

CIAE-00 L-01 OES-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SP-02 SAM-01 /041 W

----- 077098

R 310631Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3624

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 8426

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG PLOS PFOR KS

SUBJECT: GULF COMMITMENT TO DRILL

REF: SEOUL 7868

1. GULF REPRESENTATIVE HARBAUGH AGAIN RAISED THE MATTER OF DRILLING IN BLOCK IV WITH THE AMBASSADOR DURING A MEETING WITH GULF PRESIDENT LEE. THE UPSHOT WAS THAT LEE AGREED WE SHOULD NOT PRESS ROKG ON THIS QUESTION.

2. HARBAUGH ALSO INDICATED THAT PLANNED DRILLING IN BLOCK IV WOULD HAVE COST GULF NOTHING AS ZAPATA WOULD HAVE PAID FOR IT ALL. ZAPATA WAS NOW OUT OF THE PICTURE AND ANY FUTURE DRILLING THERE WOULD BE AT GULF'S EXPENSE. ALTHOUGH THEY HAD THE SAME GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION AS ZAPATA, HAD THEY TO MAKE THE INVESTMENT THEMSELVES, GULF WOULD NOT DRILL AS THEY THOUGHT THE PROSPECTS TOO POOR. UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT, THE ROKG COULD NOW CANCEL THE CONCESSION BECAUSE OF GULF'S FAILURE TO DRILL. HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO DO SO AT THIS TIME BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE WOULD WANT TO DRILL IN A DISPUTED AREA EITHER. THUS, GULF WOULD JUST AS SOON HOLD ON TO THE CONCESSION, IN THE OUTSIDE HOPE THAT EXPLORATION IN THE ADJACENT BLOCK WOULD PRODUCE EVIDENCE WHICH WOULD CAUSE GULF TO REVISE

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ITS ESTIMATE OF THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF ITS BLOCK.

SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, EAST CHINA SEA, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL08426
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750378-0412
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975101/aaaaaaef.tel
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 SEOUL 7868
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GULF COMMITMENT TO DRILL
TAGS: ENRG, PLOS, PFOR, KS, US, GULF OIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
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